billing and collection are raised. There is, therefore, a clear need to attract private investments in transmission and distribution simultaneously with investment in generation.

Power generation through various sources

4338. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total power generated through various sources in the country during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation made a significant contribution in power generation in these years;

(c) if so, the year-wise break-up thereof; and

(d) the power generation plan drawn-up by the NTPC for the remaining years of Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (c) The details of total power generated through various sources in the country along with contribution in generation by NTPC during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are given below:

Category	Generation (Million Units)		
	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Thermal (including NTPC)	353662	386787	40820
Nuclear	12015	13267	16896
Hydro	82690	80628	74346
Total	448367	480682	499450
NTPC	113756	124414	135444

(d) The generation target of NTPC stations during 2001-02 (terminal year of Ninth Plan) is 132550 Million Units (tentative)

Cost of generating power through various resources

†4339. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of generation of hydro power is much less than the cost of power generation by other resources;

(b) if so, the estimated production cost of power generated through hydro, thermal and nuclear power sectors, separately; and

(c) the estimated production cost of the power in the projects using coal and naphtha for power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) It is a fact that in long run, the cost of power generation from hydro power station is generally much less than the cost of power generation from other sources of energy.

(b) The estimated production cost of power generation from hydro and thermal power stations of various States for the year 1999-2000 is given in Statement-I. (*See* below) The tariff for sale of power from various atomic power stations during the years 1996-97 to 1999-2000 varies from 82 paise/Kwh to 295 paise/Kwh.

(c) The cost of power generation from the coal-based thermal power stations in the State Sector is given in Statement-II and for

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.